

# **Maryland Military Installation Council**

## **Annual Report**

**2008**

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## **Overview**

In accordance with Maryland HB 1700, effective July 1, 2006, this constitutes the annual report of the Maryland Military Installation Council (MMIC). The MMIC met three times during 2008: March 3, June 9 and September 12. The March and September meetings were chaired by the Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) Secretary David Edgerley, and the June meeting was chaired by DBED Deputy Secretary Clarence Bishop. DBED's Office of Military and Federal Affairs continues to provide direct support and coordinates actions associated with the MMIC.

The Council continues to be a forum for community, military installation, business, state agency and elected official dialogue on issues associated with Maryland's bases. While most of the issues the past few years have focused on implementation of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) decisions, the Council also provides a forum for non-BRAC related issues, including encroachment, public-private partnering and best practices. Reviewing encroachment issues and best practices associated with military facility interaction are specific HB 1700 reporting requirements. A portion of the June 9 meeting was devoted to an encroachment presentation by the President of the Southern Maryland Navy Alliance that has sharpened awareness of the multiple aspects of encroachment that can threaten the long term viability of individual installations. The DBED Office of Military and Federal Affairs tracks best practices from around the nation and more formally tracks issues through a "Growth Community" forum sponsored by the National Governors' Association (NGA) Center for Best Practices. NGA participated in the September 12 meeting, and Maryland Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown co-chairs a twenty community forum reviewing best practices with a focus on education, transportation and infrastructure.

Brief summaries of the three 2008 meetings are provided below. Detailed minutes are available by contacting DBED's Office of Military and Federal Affairs at 410-767-6321.

## **March 3, 2008 Meeting**

The Maryland Military Installation Council met March 3, 2008 at the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) headquarters in Crownsville. Over 100 attendees included Lieutenant Governor Brown, secretaries of state agencies, installation commanders, and congressional staff.

The Lieutenant Governor reviewed three legislative initiatives sponsored by the Maryland BRAC Subcabinet: the BRAC Higher Education Fund; the BRAC Community Enhancement Act (Zones); and the BRAC Community Enhancement Act (Enhanced Use Lease or "EUL"). He then responded to questions associated with the legislative initiatives.

Lieutenant Governor Brown was followed by panels reviewing the status of BRAC actions at Fort Meade, Andrews Air Force Base, Fort Detrick, the Aberdeen Proving Ground, and the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda. The panels varied in composition but generally included military commanders, regional BRAC coordinators and presidents of local military alliances. In each case required actions were generally meeting established guidelines, and concerns centered on transportation infrastructure and workforce development - particularly the retention of federal employees. The regional BRAC panels were followed by updates from the presidents of the Southern Maryland Navy, Maritime and Indian Head Defense Alliances.

The final panels of the meeting covered workforce initiatives and education issues and were followed by brief updates from state agencies and congressional staff.

### **June 9, 2008 Meeting**

The Maryland Military Installation Council met June 9, again at the DH&CD headquarters in Crownsville. DBED Deputy Secretary Clarence Bishop chaired the meeting.

The meeting began with a summary of BRAC Subcabinet activities presented by the Subcabinet's Executive Director. Comments associated with Maryland's BRAC opportunities were then made by special guests Senator Ben Cardin and Congressmen Dutch Ruppersberger and John Sarbanes.

The Congressional attendees were followed by panels comprised of local commanders and representatives of the major defense organizations moving to Maryland. The Aberdeen Proving Ground provided briefings by Fort Monmouth and the Army's Test and Evaluation Command; Fort Meade included the Defense Information Systems Command (DISA), Defense Media Activities and Security Adjudication; and Andrews Air Force Base included Air Force District Washington and the Air National Guard.

The President of the Southern Maryland Navy Alliance provided an overview on encroachment issues as they relate to not only installations with aviation components but more generally facilities confronted the stress of proximity to factors that inhibit mission execution. It is generally believed that should there be another national review of bases through BRAC or another mechanism, encroachment will be a major determinant of what bases are either realigned or closed.

The encroachment presentation was followed panels of representatives of companies either moving to or expanding their Maryland operations as the result of BRAC. Companies included Computer Science Corporation or CSC, Battelle, Booz Allen Hamilton, SAIC , MITRE and L3. All will experience significant BRAC related growth and all are active within the communities housing their Maryland activities.

The June 9 meeting concluded with comments by MMIC members Senator John Astle and Delegate Mary-Dulaney James, Maryland Cabinet officials and congressional staff.

### **September 12, 2008 Meeting**

The September 12 meeting was again held at the DH&CD and was chaired by DBED Secretary David Edgerley. Opening comments were made by the MMIC Executive Director who introduced the new commanders at Fort Meade and Fort Detrick, the new Deputy Garrison Commander for Transformation at the Aberdeen Proving Ground and the Chief of Staff of the Defense Media Activity. The introductions were followed by a brief overview of the process of leveraging national best practices by National Governors Association's Center for Best Practices.

Congressional perspective was provided by special guests Congressmen John Sarbanes and Elijah Cummings, both of whom addressed special opportunities challenges associated with BRAC implementation.

Regional BRAC Coordinators then provided issue updates on progress at the Aberdeen proving Ground; Andrews Air Force Base; National naval Medical Center, Bethesda; Fort Meade; and Fort Detrick. Most comments centered on transportation requirements.

The BRAC Coordinators were followed by a Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR) panel that addressed general workforce issues, spousal employment, ongoing grants, and outreach activities in New Jersey and Virginia.

The meeting concluded with updates from the alliance presidents, cabinet secretaries or their representatives, and congressional staff.